[English]

Telephone Connections in Madras

3187. SHRI ERA ANBARASU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of applicants for telephone connections in various categories in Madras city, till date; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to provide their telephone connections?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Waiting list as on 31.1.1992.

(i)	OYT	10618
(ii)	Non-OYT Special	3999
(iii)	Non-OYT General	77228
	Total	91845

(b) For 1991–92 a target of 8900 new connections was kept which will be achieved. As per draft 8th Plan proposals, expansion programmes are being drawn with an objective to contain the waiting period for telephone connections to two years in large telephone systems by the end of the 8th Plan.

Accordingly expansion programmes are being drawn to provide telephone connections to persons in waiting list in Madras progressively during 8th Five Year Plan period.

Processing Project in Andhra Pradesh

3188. DR. VISWANATHAM KANITHI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have approved a Joint Food Processing Project in the coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any Japanese Company has shown interest in setting up such industries in the country;

(c) the details of export oriented food processing industries in Andhra Pradesh;

(d) the incentives being given to start these industries; and

(e) the details of Food Processing Industries at present in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSIGN INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) A proposal regarding setting up of an on–shore fish processing and shrimp feed mill project with Australian aid to be set up in Vishakhapatnam has been approved. The project envisages setting up an on–shore fish processing plant at Vishakhapatnam, a shrimp feed mill based in Southern region of Andhra Pradesh and a cold storage/retail outlet based at Hyderabad linked with cold chain to the fish processing plant. The cost of the project is estimated at Australian $ 10.7 million (Rs. 161 million) of which the Australian aid portion is approx. Australian 5.7 million or 53%. The identified project implementation organisation is the Marine Products Export Development Authority.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As per the information available with this Ministry 6 LOIs have so far been issued since 1989 for setting up 100% EOUs for fruit & vegetable processing in Andhra Pradesh.

(d) Under the 100% EOU scheme several incentives like duty free import of capital goods, nil excise duty and concessions in